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AUTHOR Ng, Wendy L., Ed.; Chin, Soo-Young, Ed.; Moy, James S., Ed.; Okihiro, Gary Y., Ed.

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ABSTRACT

The 18 essays in this collection explore views of Asian American diversity and race relations, and address issues of representation, providing perspectives of academics, writers, and activists. They explore many questions raised by the complex nature of race relations and the relationship of Asian Americans within U.S. society. Although many of the essays touch briefly on education for Asian Americans, several are of particular interest to educators. The first, "Embracing Diversity: A Pedagogy for Introductory Asian American Studies Courses," by Lane Ryo Hirabayashi and Malcolm Collier, is a description of an approach to teaching Asian American studies through paper assignments and panel activities. Three pieces examine some of the strategies used by Asian Americans to achieve voice through literature and to study the cultural expressions of Asian Americans. These are: (1) "Different Silence(s): The Poetics and Politics of Location (Traise Yamaoto); (2) "Claiming Land, Claiming Voice, Claiming Canon: Institutionalized Challenges in Kingston's 'China Men' and 'The Woman Warrior'" (Rachel Lee); and (3) "Trickster Strategies: Challenging American Identity, Community, and Art in Kingston's 'Tripmaster Monkey'" (Sharon Suzuki-Martinez). Two essays consider how Asian American voices will be heard and acknowledged in what is taught to all students: "The Margin at the Center, the Center at the Margins: Acknowledging the Diversity of Asian American Poetry" by David Mura and "The Representation of Asian American Poetry in 'The Heath Anthology of American Literature'" by George Uba. "The State of Asian American Studies in Wisconsin" by Amy Ling and "From Different Shows Again" by Peter N. Kiang explore the condition of Asian American studies in universities east of California. Each chapter contains references. (Contains four figures and two tables.) (SLD)

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